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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

ThermoLife International, LLC, an
Arizona limited liability company,

Case No.

Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT

Aesthetic Distribution, LLC d/b/a
Olympus Labs, a New Jersey limited
liability company,

(Jury Trial Demanded)

Defendant.

For its Complaint against defendant Aesthetic Distribution, LLC d/b/a Olympus Labs (“Olympus”), ThermoLife International, LLC (“ThermoLife”) alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE CASE

1. Plaintiff ThermoLife is a world leader in the use and development of nitrate technology in Dietary Supplements. Supplementation with nitrates has been demonstrated to increase Nitric Oxide (NO) and reduce resting blood pressure. Nitrate supplementation also reduces oxygen consumption during exercise and can enhance exercise tolerance and performance. ThermoLife holds at least 16 patents with more than 450 claims related amino acid nitrate compounds, compositions, and their uses in

1 Dietary Supplements and food products. ThermoLife is also the exclusive licensee of a
2 global patent portfolio protecting the use of nitrates and nitrites (separate and apart from
3 amino acids) for increasing athletic performance and increasing endurance.
4 ThermoLife's ingredients are included in the best-selling sports nutrition products in the
5 world.

6 2. Defendant Olympus competes with ThermoLife and products sourced
7 from ThermoLife in the Dietary Supplement market.

8 3. Olympus got its start in the Dietary Supplement industry by selling dietary
9 supplements that included illegal synthetic amphetamine-like drug ingredients.
10 Olympus' advertising repeatedly touts the company's history of selling illegal
11 supplements, and even goes as far as to boast that it was the first company to bring "J.
12 Regia" to the market. J. Regia is an abbreviation for "Juglans regia", which is used as a
13 botanical cover for the drug compound known as DMHA, a synthetic amphetamine-like
14 stimulant that the FDA approved for use as a drug in 1946, and is illegal for sale in
15 Dietary Supplements.

16 4. Olympus has continued to market and sell products that include illegal
17 drugs to unknowing dietary supplement consumers. Olympus' drug products compete
18 directly against the world's top-selling pre-workout product: Cellucor's C4—a pre-
19 workout product fueled by ThermoLife's patented creatine nitrate.

20 5. In addition to including illegal drugs in their products, Olympus also lies
21 to consumers about many of the other ingredients in its products. As explained further
22 below, many of Olympus' products list natural botanical ingredients on the label, like
23 Juglans Regia extract or Eria Jarensis extract. However, instead of the natural botanical
24 ingredient listed on the label, Olympus' products do not include these plant extracts, for
25 example, there is no Eria Jarensis extract in Olympus products; instead, Olympus'
26 products include synthetic compound known as N,N-Dimethylphenethylamine (N,N-
27 DMPEA) that is, in fact, manufactured in a factory in China.

28

1 6. In addition to selling drugs labeled as Dietary Supplements, Olympus has
2 also falsely marketed, and falsely patent marked its products, claiming its products
3 include “clinically dosed” and “patented” ingredients. One such ingredient is named
4 VASO6. Olympus claims that VASO6 is “patented” and is “clinically proven” to
5 “stimulate[] nitric oxide levels 10x greater than Citrulline.” Contrary to these blatantly
6 false claims, VASO6 is not “patented”, “clinically-proven”, or “clinically studied” for its
7 advertised effects, and VASO6 is not proven to “stimulate[] nitric oxide levels 10x
8 greater than Citrulline.”

9 7. Olympus’ business model is based on lies, false marketing, and callous
10 manipulation of the regulatory regime for Dietary Supplements.

11 8. Olympus’ advertising statements are provably false and Olympus is fully
12 aware that its advertising statements are false. In addition to selling drugs falsely labeled
13 as Dietary Supplements, in direct competition with ThermoLife and products sourced
14 from ThermoLife, Olympus continues to unfairly compete with ThermoLife by selling
15 synthetic drug ingredients that it intentionally mislabels as botanicals (which it also
16 falsely claims are included in “clinical doses”), while also intentionally mislabeling
17 other ingredients like VASO6 which Olympus falsely labels as a patented “gallate-
18 enhanced oligomer” that is supplied in a “clinical dose.” In fact, all these statements are
19 blatant lies. Olympus is simply unable to compete in the marketplace fairly; its
20 continued and repeated willful false advertising must cease.

21 9. ThermoLife brings claims for false advertising under 25 U.S.C. § 1125(d),
22 false marking under 35 U.S.C. § 292 and unfair competition against its competitor
23 Olympus. In competition with ThermoLife, Olympus is willfully and intentionally
24 misleading consumers into purchasing Olympus’ falsely advertised, falsely marked,
25 misbranded, and adulterated products. Olympus’ ill-gotten profits must be disgorged.

26 **PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

27 10. Plaintiff ThermoLife is an Arizona limited liability company with its
28 principal place of business in Phoenix, Arizona.

11. Olympus is a New Jersey limited liability company with its principal place of business in New Jersey. Olympus markets and distributes Dietary Supplements throughout the United States, including in Arizona. Its interactive website offers for sale and sells the products at issue to Arizona customers and it ships products to such customers.

12. Olympus falsely advertises to Arizona customers and unfairly competes with ThermoLife in the state.

13. Personal jurisdiction exists under Arizona's long-arm statute.

14. The Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's federal claims under 15 U.S.C. § 1121 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a). This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's state law claims based on 28 U.S.C. §§ 1338(b) and 1367.

15. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to ThermoLife's claims occurred in this district.

16. Venue with respect to Olympus is also proper in this district because Olympus is subject to personal jurisdiction in this district.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

THERMOLIFE

17. Ron Kramer (“Kramer”) founded ThermoLife in 1998. Prior to founding ThermoLife, Kramer opened and operated a Gold’s Gym in Santa Cruz, California.

18. In 1998, Kramer founded ThermoLife in order to provide the public with quality proven supplements.

19. ThermoLife currently holds 23 separate and distinct patents that protect its innovative development and use of ingredients in Dietary Supplements and food products.

20. ThermoLife holds at least 16 patents with more than 450 claims related to amino acid nitrate compounds, compositions, and uses in Dietary Supplements and food products.

1 21. For example, ThermoLife's U.S. Patent No. 8,178,572 protects and covers
2 "a method for increasing the vasodilative characteristics of amino acids in a human, the
3 method comprising administering orally to the human a pharmaceutically effective
4 amount of an amino acid compound consisting essentially of a nitrate of an amino acid
5 selected from the group consisting of Arginine, Agmatine, Beta Alanine, Citrulline,
6 Creatine, Glutamine, L-Histidine, Isoleucine, Leucine, Norvaline, Ornithine, and
7 Valine."

8 22. With few exceptions, anytime an amino acid is combined with nitrate(s)
9 and sold and marketed to consumers in a Dietary Supplement, that product relies on
10 ThermoLife's patented technology.

11 23. ThermoLife's patented creatine nitrate has proven exceedingly popular in
12 the Dietary Supplement market.

13 24. Creatine is sold in many forms and for decades has been used to promote
14 muscle mass in individuals. Creatine nitrate is a new form of creatine where the creatine
15 molecule is ionically bound to a nitrate ion. Among its other benefits, the bonding of the
16 creatine with the nitrate increases the solubility of the compound, which is beneficial for
17 use in Dietary Supplements.

18 25. ThermoLife licenses and sells its patented creatine nitrate for use in
19 Dietary Supplement products.

20 26. Sourced and licensed from ThermoLife, creatine nitrate and other amino
21 acid nitrates supplied by ThermoLife are included in many of the top-selling Dietary
22 Supplements in the world.

23 27. These ingredients are sought after by consumers of Dietary Supplements
24 looking to gain muscle and increase athletic performance or improve physical
25 appearance. The "Sports Nutrition" category of Dietary Supplements caters to this
26 subset of Dietary Supplement consumers.

27 28. As just one example, ThermoLife's creatine nitrate is the marquee
28 ingredient in the world's top-selling pre-workout product: Cellucor's C4.

29. As a result of the popularity of ThermoLife's nitrates in the Dietary Supplement market, ThermoLife's business is tied to the performance of products that rely on ThermoLife's patented ingredients and technologies.

30. ThermoLife is harmed when consumers are misled into purchasing any falsely advertised product that competes with any product that contains ingredients that are sourced from ThermoLife and/or technology that is licensed from ThermoLife.

31. ThermoLife has an identifiable economic interest in the Dietary Supplement market, including the Sports Nutrition segment.

OLYMPUS

32. Olympus sells and advertises Dietary Supplements over the internet, through its own website and websites of online retailers whose business is marketing and selling Dietary Supplements in the Sports Nutrition Market. Olympus also sells its products to wholesalers and in brick-and-mortar stores. Olympus competes directly with ThermoLife and the licensees of ThermoLife's patented ingredients and technology in the Dietary Supplement market.

33. As explained below, however, Olympus' competition is unfair and illegal. Instead of using ingredients that comply with the regulatory regime, Olympus consistently adds ingredients that have been classified as drugs to its products—an act that is strictly illegal under the regulatory regime. In addition, Olympus makes blatantly false and unfounded claims regarding its ingredients and its products.

34. Olympus' false advertising is willful, and its false statements have caused ThermoLife competitive injury. Any profits that Olympus earned as a result of its intentional false advertising is ill-gotten gains and must be disgorged.

REGULATION OF DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

35. While Olympus' false statements are readily identifiable as false on their own, a brief summary of the rules and regulations that govern the sale and marketing of Dietary Supplements is informative.

1 36. Congress determined which ingredients can be used in Dietary
 2 Supplements when it passed The Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994
 3 (“DSHEA”).

4 37. In 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff), DSHEA defines “Dietary Supplements” as follows:

5 The term “Dietary Supplement”—

6 (1) means a product (other than tobacco) intended to
 7 supplement the diet that bears or contains one or more of the
 following dietary ingredients:

8 (A) a vitamin; (B) a mineral; (C) an herb or other
 9 botanical; (D) an amino acid; (E) a dietary substance for use
 10 by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary
 11 intake; or (F) a concentrate, metabolite, constituent, extract,
 12 or combination of any ingredient described in clause (A), (B),
 13 (C), (D), or (E);

14 (2) means a product that—

15 (A) (i) is intended for ingestion in a form described in
 16 section 350(c)(1)(B)(i) of this title; or (ii) complies with
 17 section 350(c)(1)(B)(ii) of this title;

18 (B) is not represented for use as a conventional food or
 19 as a sole item of a meal or the diet; and

20 (C) is labeled as a Dietary Supplement; and

21 (3) does—

22 (A) include an article that is approved as a new drug
 23 under section 355 of this title or licensed as a biologic under
 24 section 262 of title 42 and was, prior to such approval,
 25 certification, or license, marketed as a Dietary Supplement or
 26 as a food unless the Secretary has issued a regulation, after
 27 notice and comment, finding that the article, when used as or
 28 in a Dietary Supplement under the conditions of use and
 dosages set forth in the labeling for such Dietary Supplement,
 is unlawful under section 342(f) of this title; and

29 (B) not include—

30 (i) an article that is approved as a new drug
 31 under section 355 of this title, certified as an antibiotic
 32 under section 357 of this title, or licensed as a biologic
 33 under section 262 of title 42, or

34 (ii) an article authorized for investigation as a
 35 new drug, antibiotic, or biological for which
 36 substantial clinical investigations have been instituted
 37 and for which the existence of such investigations has
 38 been made public, which was not before such
 approval, certification, licensing, or authorization

marketed as a Dietary Supplement or as a food unless the Secretary, in the Secretary's discretion, has issued a regulation, after notice and comment, finding that the article would be lawful under this chapter.

38. Because there is no pre-approval process for Dietary Supplements, prior to selling any product as a Dietary Supplement it is the seller's responsibility to ensure that the product complies with Section 321(ff).

39. Accordingly, 21 U.S.C. § 321 (ff)(3)(B)(i) specifically prohibits the use of any article approved as a drug from being included in a Dietary Supplement, and 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff)(3)(B)(ii) specifically prohibits the use in Dietary Supplements of “any article authorized for investigation as a new drug, for which substantial clinical investigations have been instituted and for which the existence of such investigations has been made public.”

40. As the FDA has explained many times, declaring a product a “Dietary Supplement” that includes ingredients that are not in compliance with Section 321(ff) “causes product[s] marketed as Dietary Supplements to be misbranded under 403(a)(1) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1)] in that the labeling is false and misleading in any particular.”

41. While 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff) defines what type of ingredients can and cannot be included in a “Dietary Supplement”, 21 U.S.C. § 331 describes prohibited acts.

42. 21 U.S.C. § 331(a) prohibits introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of any food, or drug, that is adulterated or misbranded.

43. 21 U.S.C. § 331(l) bars the sale of any food to which a drug is added in interstate commerce that includes any approved drug, or any ingredient upon which a “substantial clinical investigation has been instituted and made public.” Products that contain a substance that has been authorized for investigation as a new drug are outside the definition of a dietary supplement. 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff).

44. And, as discussed below, products that are adulterated under 21 U.S.C. § 350(b) are considered unsafe and prohibited from being sold in interstate commerce under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v).

45. The FDA has declared time and time again, under 21 U.S.C. § 350b, Dietary Supplements are deemed “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. § 342(f), and not legal for sale, unless all of the ingredients included in the Dietary Supplement meet one of the following two requirements:

(i) the dietary supplement contains only dietary ingredients that have been present in the food supply [since 1994] as an article used for food in a form in which the food has not been chemically altered; or

(ii) there is a history of use or other evidence of safety establishing that the dietary ingredient when used under the conditions recommended or suggested in the labeling of the dietary supplement will reasonably be expected to be safe and, at least 75 days before being introduced or delivered for introduction into interstate commerce, the manufacturer or distributor of the dietary ingredient or dietary supplement provides the FDA with information, including any citation to published articles, which is the basis on which the manufacturer or distributor has concluded that a dietary supplement containing such dietary ingredient will reasonably be expected to be safe.

46. As the FDA has explained in numerous warning letters:

In the absence of a history of use or other evidence of safety establishing ... when used under the conditions recommended or suggested in the labeling of your product, will reasonably be expected to be safe, [a Dietary Supplement] is adulterated under sections 402(f)(1)(B) and 413(a) of the Act [21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(B) and 350b(a)] because it contains a new dietary ingredient for which there is inadequate information to provide reasonable assurance that such ingredient does not present a significant or unreasonable risk of illness or injury. Introduction of such product into interstate commerce is prohibited under section 301(a) and (v) of the Act [21 U.S.C. §§ 331(a) and (v)].

47. The FDA's website warns customers about the prevalence of "Fraudulent Dietary Supplements:"

Federal regulators continue to warn consumers about tainted, dangerous products that are marketed as Dietary Supplements. These fraudulent products can cause serious injury or even death.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has found nearly 300 fraudulent products—promoted mainly for weight loss, sexual enhancement, and bodybuilding—that contain hidden or deceptively labeled ingredients, such as

- the active ingredients in FDA-approved drugs or their analogs (closely-related drugs)
 - other compounds, such as novel synthetic steroids, that do not qualify as dietary ingredients

“These products are masquerading as Dietary Supplements—they may look like Dietary Supplements but they are not legal Dietary Supplements,” says Michael Levy, director of FDA’s Division of New Drugs and Labeling Compliance. “Some of these products contain hidden prescription ingredients at levels much higher than those found in an approved drug product and are dangerous.”

FDA has received numerous reports of harm associated with the use of these products, including stroke, liver injury, kidney failure, heart palpitations, and death.

48. As explained below, Olympus blatantly disregards this regulatory regime.
49. The products Olympus sells, identified in this complaint, are specific examples of the “Fraudulent Dietary Supplements” that the FDA has warned consumers about. Olympus falsely advertises these products as Dietary Supplements or lies about the source of the ingredients, their efficacy, and their patent status. Five of these falsely advertised products (Re1gn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Bloodshed, Conqu3r, and Elix1r) contain a drug, DMHA, that has serious side effects and/or poses a significant risk even when taken by healthy individuals, yet Olympus’ false advertising of these illegal, misbranded drug products as “Dietary Supplements” leads consumers to believe that these products only contain ingredients that are safe, natural, and legal. They do not.

50. In other products, Olympus simply lies about its ingredients claiming them to be “clinically dosed”, “clinically proven”, “sourced from botanicals”, and “patented”, when they are not.

51. In all cases outlined here, Olympus falsely advertises its products and unfairly competes with ThermoLife – Olympus should be disgorged any profits earned from this unfair activity as it is ill-gotten-gains.

OLYMPUS' DMHA PRODUCTS

52. Olympus' website includes a "disclaimer" page. The disclaimer included on that page states: "None of the statements made on this website have been reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration."

53. In addition to this disclaimer on its website, every single product that Olympus ships and sells includes a disclaimer on its label. That disclaimer states: "These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration."

54. Directly contrary to Olympus' disclaimers, at least five of the products that Olympus has sold include an ingredient that is not legal for sale in dietary supplements; these products contain DMHA,¹ which the FDA has evaluated and determined to be a drug. Nonetheless, Olympus has sold products that include DMHA, blatantly lying to consumers on every bottle and on every webpage claiming the FDA has not examined DMHA and made this determination.

55. Olympus markets and sells five products that include an ingredient that it labels as “Juglans Regia Extract” or “J. Regia.” Contrary to what is listed on the labels of Olympus’s products there is no plant material from Juglans Regia in any of Olympus’s products. Instead the products contain a synthetic amphetamine-like drug ingredient more commonly called DMHA, which is falsely labeled as J. Regia Extract or Juglans Regia Extract.

56. Juglans Regia Extract is a botanical name that Olympus uses to trick consumers and regulators into believing that this ingredient is a plant extract, instead of the synthetic drug compound DMHA. Juglans Regia is a species of walnut tree

¹ Olympus doesn't list DMHA on its products' labels. Instead, it lists a botanical cover (as discussed in paragraphs 75-80). This means that customers cannot even make an informed decision about the products they purchase and consumer and they are unknowingly ingesting a drug with serious side effects.

1 indigenous to Southwest China and the Himalayas. The “*Juglans Regia* extract”
2 ingredient included in Olympus’ products is not sourced from walnut trees, it is a
3 synthetic amphetamine-like drug compound manufactured in a factory.

4 57. In a YouTube video that Olympus uses to market and sell its products, the
5 owner of Olympus, Mobi Khawaja, repeatedly touts *J. Regia*, stating “we brought *J. Reg*
6 into the market.” Astonishingly, Olympus claims that other Dietary Supplement
7 companies essentially copied Olympus’ formulations, by including *J. Regia*; Olympus
8 actually boasts about the fact that it brought an illegal drug, disguised as a botanical, to
9 the Dietary Supplement market and views it as something that consumers should “give
10 credit [for].”

11 58. Olympus includes *Juglans Regia Extract* (DMHA) in five of its products:
12 *Re1gn*, *I Am Suprem3 Black Magic*, *Bloodshed*, *Conqu3r*, and *Elix1r*. These products
13 compete directly with products that are sourced from ThermoLife, including Cellucor’s
14 top-selling pre-workout: *C4*.

15 59. Directly contrary to Olympus’ advertising, marketing, and sale of *Re1gn*, *I*
16 *Am Suprem3 Black Magic*, *Bloodshed*, *Conqu3r*, and *Elix1r*, these products are not
17 Dietary Supplements.

18 60. The FDA approved DMHA as a prescription drug in 1946.

19 61. The drug company Smith, Kline, and French introduced DMHA as the
20 active ingredient in the Eskay® Oralator inhaler.

21 62. Because of DMHA’s prior extensive use as an approved drug, it has
22 several known potential serious side effects, including: Insomnia, Headaches, Shortness
23 of Breath, Panic Attacks, Tremor, Increased Blood Pressure), Increased Heart Rate,
24 Increased Rate Pressure Product (Cardiac Hemodynamic Stress), Tachycardia, Cardiac
25 Dysrhythmia (Irregular Heartbeat), Chest Pain, Heat Stroke, Heart Attack, Cerebral
26 Hemorrhage (Stroke), Acute Liver Injury and Failure, Rhabdomyolysis, and Renal
27 Injury.

1 63. The FDA has approved DMHA as a “drug.” As such, DMHA does not
2 meet the definition of a dietary ingredient and can never be included in a Dietary
3 Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff). Accordingly, any product labeled as a Dietary
4 Supplement that includes the ingredient DMHA on the label is “misbranded” under 21
5 U.S.C. § 343(a)(1) because: listing a drug (DMHA) as an ingredient in the supplement
6 facts panel of a Dietary Supplement constitutes “misbranding” “in that the labeling is
7 false and misleading in any particular”; a drug (DMHA) is not, and cannot be, a dietary
8 ingredient, thus any Dietary Supplement label that lists DMHA as a dietary ingredient in
9 a Supplement Facts Panel is both false and misleading and is, therefore, misbranded.
10 Likewise, any product labeled as a Dietary Supplement that contains the drug ingredient
11 DMHA is “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. §§ 342(f)(1)(b) and 350b because DMHA
12 (even if it could be a Dietary Ingredient) is a New Dietary Ingredient (NDI) that (as a
13 drug) has not, and cannot pass the long checklist of regulatory and safety requirements
14 for a New Dietary Ingredient to become compliant, and legal for use in a Dietary
15 Supplement. Accordingly, misbranded and adulterated products, like those that include
16 the drug DMHA, cannot be sold in interstate commerce under U.S.C. 21 § 331(a), which
17 prohibits “the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce any
18 food [or] drug … that is adulterated or misbranded.” Furthermore, because DMHA is
19 “adulterated” under 21 U.S.C. § 350b, any product that contains DMHA (like Relgn, I
20 Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Bloodshed, Conqu3r, and Elix1r) is, by law, unsafe and
21 prohibited for sale under 21 U.S.C. § 331(v), which prohibits “the introduction or
22 delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of a Dietary Supplement that is unsafe
23 under section 350b of this title.” Finally, because DMHA is an approved drug, for which
24 substantial clinical trials have been conducted and made public, it can never be a dietary
25 ingredient under 21 U.S.C. §§ 321(ff)(3)(B)(i) and 321(ff)(3)(B)(ii). For this reason as
26 well, any product (like Relgn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Bloodshed, Conqu3r, and
27 Elix1r) that includes DMHA is also prohibited for sale in interstate commerce as a
28 Dietary Supplement under 21 U.S.C. § 331(l), which prohibits “the introduction or

1 delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of any food to which has been added a
2 drug approved under section 355 of this title, or a drug or a biological product for which
3 substantial clinical investigations have been instituted and for which the existence of
4 such investigations has been made public.”

5 64. At bottom, any Dietary Supplement that includes DMHA cannot
6 reasonably be expected to be “safe” because DMHA is a prescription drug and, by law, a
7 drug is not a safe Dietary Ingredient. Olympus’ labels and advertising, falsely represents
8 to consumers that the statements made on Re1gn’s, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic’s,
9 Bloodshed’s, Conqu3r’s, and Elix1r’s labels and in the advertising for these products
10 have not been evaluated by the FDA. In truth, however, the FDA has evaluated DMHA
11 and approved DMHA as a drug, which excludes DMHA from the legal definition of a
12 Dietary Ingredient as per 21 U.S.C. § 321(ff). Accordingly, products labeled as Dietary
13 Supplements that contain the drug DMHA are not safe, and not legal for sale as Dietary
14 Supplements.

15 65. ThermoLife has suffered competitive injury as a result of Olympus’ willful
16 false advertising of Re1gn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Bloodshed, Conqu3r, and
17 Elix1r as Dietary Supplements.

18 66. By including DMHA (a drug) as an ingredient in Re1gn, I Am Suprem3
19 Black Magic, Bloodshed, Conqu3r, and Elix1r and marketing these products to
20 unknowing consumers as a Dietary Supplement, Olympus has created a serious health
21 risk to consumers. Products that include DMHA are not safe and products that contain
22 DMHA are illegal for sale as Dietary Supplements. Motivated by greed, Olympus made
23 the conscious decision to profit from its false marketing of the DMHA products
24 identified herein. To do so, Olympus has made false and material representations to
25 consumers regarding DMHA and intentionally misled consumers to believe that the
26 ingredient DMHA: (1) has not been evaluated by the FDA; (2) is legal for sale in a
27 Dietary Supplement; (3) is safe; (4) is natural; and (5) is a Dietary Ingredient.

28

1 67. Making matters worse, Olympus advertised these products as “clinical
2 dosed.” In fact, Olympus’ website claims its products are “CLINICALLY DOSED
3 FORMULAS YOU CAN TRUST.”



16 68. Also, Olympus’ products claim on the product label that they use “Clinical
17 Doses.”



1 69. The term “clinical dose” suggests that the DMHA (a drug) was tested by
 2 professionals for safety and efficacy as used in the Olympus product.

3 70. Olympus has not “clinically tested” DMHA for its intended use in
 4 Olympus’ products.

5 71. In approving DMHA as a drug, the FDA approved it as a nasal inhaler.

6 72. There have been no clinical studies of DMHA for oral human consumption
 7 as a stimulant or weight loss substance: the uses falsely advertised by Olympus.

8 73. Therefore, Olympus has also falsely advertised these products as
 9 “clinically dosed”; misleading consumers regarding the efficacy and safety of DMHA in
 10 the Re1gn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Bloodshed, Conqu3r, and Elix1r products.

11 74. Accordingly, Olympus’ intentionally mislabeled, misbranded, adulterated,
 12 unsafe, illegal, and falsely advertised products, which contain the drug ingredient
 13 DMHA, should never have been in the marketplace nor entitled to any sales. Any
 14 revenue earned from the sale of these misbranded, adulterated, unsafe, and illegal
 15 products is ill-gotten gains and must be disgorged.

16 **OLYMPUS’ FALSE MARKETING OF SYNTHETIC**
 17 **INGREDIENTS AS BOTANICALS**

18 75. In order to hide the inclusion of drugs, like DMHA, and synthetic
 19 compounds, like N,N-Dimethylphenethylamine (N,N-DMPEA), in its products,
 20 Olympus falsely labels exotic and/or obscure botanical ingredients in the supplement
 21 facts panels of the products it sells. However, the exotic and/or obscure botanical
 22 ingredients are not actually included in the product. The botanical names are only listed
 23 to hide the presence of illegal and synthetic drug ingredients. This deceptive practice has
 24 become known as “botanical covers.”

25 76. Dishonest Dietary Supplement companies use botanical covers because
 26 consumers favor natural, not synthetic, ingredients, and also botanical covers make it
 27 difficult for the FDA to know that drug ingredients are actually in the product.

1 77. In addition to Juglans Regia Extract (which, as explained above, is a
 2 botanical cover for the drug DMHA), Olympus' Re1gn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic,
 3 Bloodshed products all falsely list Eria Jarensis extract as an ingredient on the products
 4 labels.

5 78. Eria Jarensis is a natural botanical ingredient, which as stated above is
 6 listed on the label of Olympus' Re1gn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Bloodshed
 7 products, but these products do not include any plant extracts from Eria Jarensis, Eria
 8 Jarensis extract is used as a botanical cover, meaning that instead of including this plant
 9 extract, Olympus instead includes a synthetic compound known as N,N-
 10 Dimethylphenethylamine (N,N-DMPEA).

11 79. N-Phenethyl Dimethylamine is a stimulant classified as a Neuromodulator
 12 on the Central Nervous system. Olympus' Re1gn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic,
 13 Bloodshed product labels all fail to inform consumers that these products all contain N-
 14 Phenethyl Dimethylamine.

15 80. Olympus' willful false advertising of these products that include Juglans
 16 Regia Extract (which, as explained above, is a botanical cover for DMHA), and Eria
 17 Jarensis extract (which, as explained above is a botanical cover for N-Phenethyl
 18 Dimethylamine) tricks consumers and regulators, causing consumers to purchase
 19 products that they believe contain natural botanical compounds, when they in fact
 20 include drugs and synthetic compounds, and causing regulators to look the other way if
 21 they see only botanical ingredients listed on the label. If Olympus disclosed that these
 22 products contained drugs and synthetic compounds, consumers would be less likely to
 23 purchase these products and they would, instead, purchase products sourced from
 24 ThermoLife. Olympus' profits earned selling products that are misbranded with
 25 botanical covers is ill-gotten gains and must be disgorged.

26 **OLYMPUS' FALSE MARKETING AND MARKING OF VASO6 PRODUCTS**

27 81. In addition to falsely marketing products that include drugs labeled as
 28 Dietary Supplements and botanical compounds that are actually syntenic stimulants,

1 Olympus is also falsely marketing and falsely patent marking all of its products that
 2 include the ingredient VASO6.

3 82. Olympus claims to be the first Dietary Supplement to market and sell
 4 products that included VASO6.

5 83. Olympus currently markets and sells four products that include VASO6:
 6 Re1gn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Ep1logue, and Massacr3.

7 84. Olympus' marking for these products claims that VASO6:

8
 9 *"Vaso6 is a gallate-enhanced oligomer made up of dimers, trimers,
 10 tetramers and pentamers that is a powerful stimulator of nitric oxide
 11 production. It can be derived from the extracts of grape seed or green
 12 tea. Research has shown that extracts of grape seeds (GSE) causes
 13 endothelium dependent relaxation (EDR) activity in vitro. EDR activity
 14 involves the release of endothelial nitric oxide (NO) release and
 15 subsequent increase in cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP) levels
 16 in the vascular smooth muscle cells ultimately increasing vasodilation
 17 and blood flow."*

18 *"Isolation and characterization of GSE identified the extract was
 19 separated into seven fractions (A-G). Only fractions (D-G) were EDR-
 20 active so they were further separated into 25 individual compound
 21 peaks by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), 16 of which
 22 were EDR active. Analysis of these 16 peaks identified Procyandin
 23 content, which are oligomeric compounds formed from catechin and
 24 epicatechin molecules. Peak G6, a trimeric procyandin gallate, was
 25 identified as the peak that had the highest EDR activity. Vaso6 contains
 26 only the peaks and fractions of GSE with the highest EDR activity
 27 including peak G6, hence the name Vaso6."*

28 *-Olympus Labs*

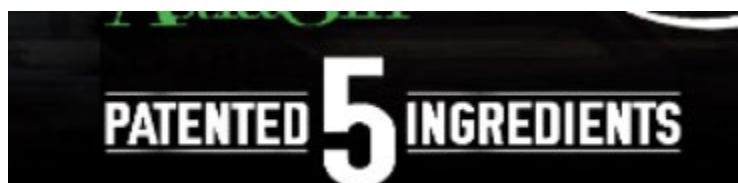
16 85. Olympus' advertising also includes the following black and red graphic:



1 86. Additionally, as explained above, Olympus marks each of its products that
 2 include VASO6 as including “clinically dosed” formulas.

3 87. And Olympus marks these products as practicing two patents: U.S. Patent
 4 No. 6,706,756 and U.S. Patent No. 7,132,446 B1

5 88. In addition to marking its products with two patent numbers, Olympus’
 6 claims I Am Supreme Black Magic and Re1gn products are covered by 5 patents. I Am
 7 Supreme Black Magic state on the labels that the products include five patented
 8 ingredients. This is blatantly false.



9
 10 89. Furthermore, on the Supplement Facts panel included on each of the
 11 product labels, Olympus lists the VASO6 product as follows:



12
 13 90. Once again this is blatantly false. VASO6 is not “Gallate-Enhanced
 14 Oligomers.” VASO6 is green tea extract. Olympus’ label falsely lists this ingredient
 15 directly on the product label.

16 91. Here, Olympus lists VASO6 is listed as “Gallate-Enhanced Oligomers”,
 17 but the common name for VASO6 is not Gallate-Enhanced Oligomers, it is green tea

1 extract. FDA regulations state ingredients must be listed as their common name, here
2 VASO6 is falsely labeled as Gallate-Enhanced Oligomers to fool consumers about the
3 true nature of the ingredient. In fact, because “Gallate-Enhanced Oligomers” is not an
4 ingredient it would be hard to know what VASO6 really is, but if one were to try and
5 identify the ingredient from the label it is logical to check the USPTO for a description
6 of the VASO6 trademark. The USPTO identifies VASO6 as grape seed extract, not
7 green tea extract.² Below is the description of VASO6 filed with the USPTO:

Vaso6

Word Mark	VASO6
Goods and Services	IC 005, US 006 018 044 046 051 052. G & S: Grape seed extracts in food, beverage and dietary supplements for increased athletic performance; Grape seed extracts sold as a component ingredient of food, beverage and dietary supplements for increased athletic performance. FIRST USE: 20180700. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 20180700

12 92. A company named Compound Solutions, Inc. supplies and markets
13 VASO6 as an ingredient for use in Dietary Supplements.

14 93. Like Olympus, Compound Solutions, Inc. claims VASO6 practices U.S.
15 Patent No 6,706,756. But, even Compound Solutions, the supplier of VASO6, does not
16 claim that VASO practices the U.S. Patent No. 7,132,446B1 (“the ‘446 Patent”),
17 because it doesn’t. The ‘466 Patent protects various uses of a compound comprising
18 “epicatechin-galloyl-epicatechin-gallate (B2-di-gallate).” To practice any claims of the
19 ‘466 Patent “epicatechin-galloyl-epicatechin-gallate (B2-di-gallate)” is necessary.
20 VASO6 does not include this compound; accordingly, VASO6 cannot possibly practice
21 this patent. Likewise, none of Olympus’ products include this compound, so none of
22 Olympus’ products can possibly practice the ‘466 Patent.

23 94. VASO6 also does not practice the '756 Patent either. The '756 Patent
24 discusses and protects various uses of "isolated procyanidin c1-gallate" and "isolated
25 procyanidins having a preponderance of (-)-epicatechins." The "isolated procyanidin
26 c1-gallate" and "isolated procyanidins having a preponderance of (-)-epicatechins"

² Listing VASO6 as “Gallate-Enhanced Oligomers” in the Supplement Facts Panel when the ingredient is really “green tea” causes the product to be misbranded and prohibited for sale in interstate.

1 discussed in the study and referenced in the '756 Patent, were obtained from "grape seed
 2 extracts."

3 95. As the makers of VASO6 readily acknowledge, VASO6 is a form of green
 4 tea extract, not grape seed extract.³

5 96. ThermoLife recently obtained a sample of VASO6 and had it
 6 independently tested. Those tests revealed that VASO6 is nothing but common green tea
 7 extract; it does not contain "isolated procyanidin c1-gallate" or "isolated procyanidins
 8 having a preponderance of (-)-epicatechins." Without either "isolated procyanidin c1-
 9 gallate" or "isolated procyanidins having a preponderance of (-)-epicatechins", VASO6
 10 cannot possibly practice the '756 Patent. Thus, contrary to Olympus's advertising,
 11 VASO6 is not "a patented nitric oxide booster."

12 97. Furthermore, the alleged effects noted in the patent from the "isolated
 13 procyanidin c1-gallate" and "isolated procyanidins having a preponderance of (-)-
 14 epicatechins" (that was found in grape seed extract, not green tea), was observed in dead
 15 rat heart tissue, not in humans.

16 98. No clinic has evaluated the dosages of VASO6 used in Olympus's
 17 products to be equal to the effect of vasodilation effect of grape seed extract on dead rat
 18 heart tissue.

19 99. Moreover, there is no known study comparing the effect of "isolated
 20 procyanidin c1-gallate" and "isolated procyanidins having a preponderance of (-)-
 21 epicatechins" that was observed in the dead rat heart tissue to human subjects (either
 22 dead or alive). Nor are there any studies analyzing the bioavailability of "isolated
 23 procyanidin c1-gallate" or "isolated procyanidins having a preponderance of (-)-
 24 epicatechins" in humans to achieve the effects observed in the dead rat heart tissue in the
 25 study cited in the '756 Patent. Therefore, even if VASO6 did contain "isolated

26 ³ As part of their scheme to defraud consumers and steal sales from reputable companies
 27 like ThermoLife and companies that license ThermoLife's top-selling ingredients, despite
 28 admitting that VASO6 is a form of green tea extract, Compound Solutions' registered trademark,
 U.S. Reg. No. 5681256, for VASO6 actually describes the compound as "grape seed extract." As
 explained above, what Compound Solutions markets as VASO6 is not "grape seed extract."

1 procyanidin c1-gallate" and "isolated procyanidins having a preponderance of (-)
 2 epicatechins" (which is does not) the effects these compounds on humans would be
 3 unknown, NOT "clinically proven."

4 100. Furthermore, there are no clinical studies on humans showing that VASO6
 5 has any of the effects Olympus (or Compound Solutions) attributes to it, or that
 6 Olympus includes an effective dose for the intended use as a vasodilator. In fact, what
 7 clinical data that does exist on the compounds actually found in VASO6 indicates that
 8 the compounds have no effect on blood flow at all, or actually cause vasoconstriction,
 9 not vasodilation; this is the exact opposite effect from what VASO6 is alleged to be
 10 patented for, "clinically proven" to do, and marketed to provide.

11 101. There are no available clinical studies demonstrating the effects of VASO6
 12 exhibiting the advertised effects in humans and VASO6 is not "clinically dosed."

13 102. Olympus falsely advertises Relgn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Ep1log,
 14 and Massacr3 as clinically dosed to add the illusion of validity and efficacy to its
 15 products.

16 103. Accordingly, there is no evidence supporting Olympus' claim that VASO6
 17 is included in a "clinical dose." Olympus' claims are blatantly false.⁴

18 104. In sum, Olympus built its brand by marketing pre-workout products that
 19 provided enhanced energy and focus, through the inclusion of a synthetic illegal
 20 amphetamine-like drug substance named DMHA. Deceiving consumers, Olympus
 21 advertises this drug ingredient as a natural botanical, when it was in fact it is an illegal
 22 synthetic drug ingredient made in a factory. Now Olympus is using the brand name that
 23 it built selling products that included illegal drugs, to market and sell new products that
 24 include VASO6. Just as Olympus did with J. Regia (which was really DMHA),
 25 Olympus is now mislabeling VASO6 as "gallate-enhanced oligomer" when the
 26 ingredient is really green tea extract. With VASO6 there is simply no support for

27 ⁴ Olympus has also indicated that it will soon start selling two additional VASO6
 28 products: "Levels" and "No Mercy" These products are falsely marketed and marked
 even before they are sold.

1 Olympus' ridiculous marketing claims that this ingredient: (1) is "patented"; (2) is
 2 "clinically dosed"; (3) has 10x the vasolidilative effects of Citrulline; and (4) it is
 3 "powerful stimulator of nitric oxide production." Olympus' marketing is all based on
 4 lies. It cannot compete with ThermoLife and products that include ThermoLife's
 5 patented ingredients, so it has knowingly and willfully sold drugs labeled as dietary
 6 supplements, and falsely advertised and falsely patent marked its products. There is no
 7 legal justification that will allow Olympus to keep any of the profits that it has
 8 wrongfully earned by tricking consumers; Olympus' ill-gotten gains must be disgorged.

9 **OLYMPUS' PRODUCTS ARE MISBRANDED**

10 105. Olympus markets all of its products as "Dietary Supplements."

11 106. Congress determined which ingredients can be used in dietary supplements
 12 when it passed The Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 ("DSHEA").

13 107. DSHEA regulates the manufacture labeling and sale of Dietary
 14 Supplements.

15 108. Because dietary supplements are not reviewed and approved by the Food
 16 and Drug Administration ("FDA") prior to being sold to consumers, every manufacturer
 17 of dietary supplements is required to ensure that all of its products comply with DSHEA.

18 109. DHSHEA (21 U.S.C.) § 343(a) states that a product is "misbranded" "if ...
 19 it's labeling is false or misleading in any particular"

20 110. Olympus' products identified herein all include labels that are "false or
 21 misleading in any particular." As explained above, these products include botanical
 22 covers (instead of the drug or synthetic compounds actually found in the products).
 23 Moreover, Re1gn, I Am Suprem3 Black Magic, Ep1logue, and Massacr3 all list VASO6
 24 as "Galate-Enhanced Oligomers" on the label when it is really green tea extract (with a
 25 trademark that says its grape seed extract) and, furthermore, falsely claim on the labels
 26 that VASO6 is patented and clinically dosed.

27 111. Accordingly, these products are all "misbranded."

112. 21 U.S.C. § 331(a) prohibits introduction in interstate commerce of any food, or drug, that is misbranded.

113. Because all of the products identified herein are misbranded, Olympus is prohibited from selling these products as Dietary Supplements in interstate commerce. Olympus falsely advertises each of these products as Dietary Supplements, misleading consumers.

114. Olympus has willfully and intentionally deceived consumers by selling misbranded and prohibited products and its ill-gotten gains earned from this illegal activity must be disgorged.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Lanham Act § 43(a))

115. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference each and every allegation of this Complaint as is fully set forth herein.

116. Olympus uses, offers for sale, and sells the products at issue in interstate and foreign commerce and has caused the false statements alleged herein to enter interstate and foreign commerce.

117. In connection with any goods or services, Olympus has used one or more words, terms, names, symbols, or devices, alone or in combination thereof, as well as any false designations of origin, false or misleading descriptions of fact, or false or misleading representations of fact in commercial advertising or promotion, and it misrepresents the nature, characteristics, qualities, or geographic origin of its or another person's goods, services, or commercial activities.

118. As alleged above, Olympus has made false statements of fact in commercial advertisements about the products sold on its website, including the false statements identified above.

119. Olympus' deception is material and made in bad faith for the purpose of influencing and deceiving the market, the public, consumers, potential customers and

1 competitors. The deception is likely to influence the purchasing decisions of the public
2 for whom it was intended and others.

3 120. ThermoLife has suffered a commercial injury to its reputation or sales,
4 which was directly and proximately caused by Olympus' false statements and other acts
5 as alleged above.

6 121. ThermoLife's injury is competitive, i.e., harmful to the ThermoLife's
7 ability to compete in the Dietary Supplement market.

8 122. By reason of Olympus' statements and conduct, it has willfully violated §
9 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a), and ThermoLife has suffered, and will
10 continue to suffer damage to its business, reputation and good will and has lost sales and
11 profits that ThermoLife would otherwise have made.

12 123. ThermoLife's Lanham Act claim does not seek to enforce the provisions
13 of DSHEA through private action. Neither DSHEA nor the Federal Food, Drug and
14 Cosmetics Act preclude a claim under § 43(a) of the Lanham Act. Further, the FDA has
15 already addressed the legality of the ingredients included in the products at issue in here;
16 the FDA declared that the products identified above are improperly marketed as Dietary
17 Supplements and that those products include materials that are classified as drugs. To
18 the extent any claim ThermoLife has asserted mentions the DSHEA, it is in relation to
19 Olympus' violations of DSHEA that have been affirmed by the FDA. ThermoLife seeks
20 to hold Olympus liable for misleading consumers about the products it sells by
21 informing consumers that the FDA had not evaluated the statements made about the
22 ingredients in the products identified above; when, in fact, the FDA has determined that
23 the ingredients in the products listed are drugs, illegal for use in Dietary Supplements.
24 Olympus makes affirmative false statements related to these products by labeling them
25 as Dietary Supplements and implying that they are "legal", "natural", and "safe."

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF
(Common Law Unfair Competition)

124. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference each and every allegation of this Complaint as is fully set forth herein.

125. As alleged above, Olympus has made false statements of material fact in commercial advertisements about the products sold on its website, including, but not limited to, the false statements identified above.

126. Common law unfair competition prevents business conduct that is contrary to honest practice in commercial matters, including deception.

127. ThermoLife has been injured as a result of Olympus' false statements.

128. ThermoLife has suffered a commercial injury based upon a misrepresentation by Olympus.

129. ThermoLife's injury is competitive, *i.e.*, harmful to the ThermoLife's ability to compete in the Dietary Supplement market.

130. As alleged above, ThermoLife's unfair competition claim does not seek to enforce the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetics Act and DSHEA through private action relating to the misbranding of food through false or misleading labeling.

131. ThermoLife has been irreparably harmed by Olympus' acts of unfair competition and it has suffered damages in an amount to be determined at trial.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

False Marking – 35 U.S.C. § 292

132. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

133. Defendant knowingly and intentionally marked upon, affixed to, or used in advertising in connection with its Massacr3 product with patent numbers the Olympus knows the product does not practice.

134. Additionally, Olympus has knowingly and intentionally marked upon, affixed to, or used in advertising in connection with its I Am Supreme Black Magic product the claim that this product practices five separate patents. It does not.

135. Each false marking by Olympus identified in this Complaint is likely to discourage or deter persons and companies from commercializing competing products or pursuing research and development of competing products and or related products, which injures ThermoLife and the public by stifling competition and increasing the costs of goods.

136. As a direct competitor of Defendant in the sale of products that contain patented ingredients and technology to increase vasodilation, ThermoLife has also suffered a competitive injury as a result of Defendant's violation of 35 U.S.C. § 292.

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

1. Plaintiff requests a trial by jury on all aspects of the Complaint.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, ThermoLife demands judgment against defendants Olympus as follows:

- A. For an award disgorging any and all monies earned by Olympus in connection with the sale of the products identified above;
 - B. For an award of compensatory and/or restitutionary damages in favor of ThermoLife in an amount to be proven at trial;
 - C. For an award of treble damages under 15 U.S.C. §§ 1117, 1125(a);
 - D. For an award of ThermoLife's attorneys' fees and costs under 15 U.S.C. § 1117, A.R.S. § 13-2314.04, and any applicable law;
 - E. Finding that Defendant falsely marked its Kraken Pre-Workout and Kraken Pump Non-Stimulant Pump Pre-Workout in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 292;
 - F. For an award of ThermoLife's damages, treble damages, and attorneys' fees under 18 U.S.C. § 1961 *et seq.*;

- G. For prejudgment interest on any liquidated sum determined to be due Plaintiff;
- H. For post-judgment interest on any judgment;
- I. For punitive damages in an amount sufficient to deter Olympus from future wrongful and outrageous conduct;
- J. An Order permanently enjoining, Olympus and all those persons in active concert or participation with them, from making false statements on the internet about their products and an order requiring Olympus and those acting in concert or participation with them to remove the false statements from the internet regarding Olympus' products; and
- K. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

DATED this 27th day of March, 2019.

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